



# HOWZAT!



## ROTARY CLUB OF NEWLANDS

“The club that appeals”



**President: Colin Burke**  
**Secretary: Lucian Pitt**



Be a gift to the world

Editor: Peter Ennis

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Rotary District 9350 website: [www.rotary9350.co.za](http://www.rotary9350.co.za)

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30 November 2015

## WEEKLY UPDATE

P O Box 44735  
CLAREMONT  
7735

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**MEETINGS:** Western Province Cricket Club Sports Centre, Ave De Mist, Rondebosch, every Monday at 18h00 for 18h15 (Except for first Monday of the Month which is a Partner’s Meeting, 18h30 for 19h00).

**ATTENDANCE:** Notice of apologies and guests and/or meal specifics to email Vanessa Rousseau at [rousseau@iafrica.com](mailto:rousseau@iafrica.com) and copy to Melinda Stapleton at [mjstapleton@webafrica.org.za](mailto:mjstapleton@webafrica.org.za) before 10h30 on Monday mornings please.

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### Comment

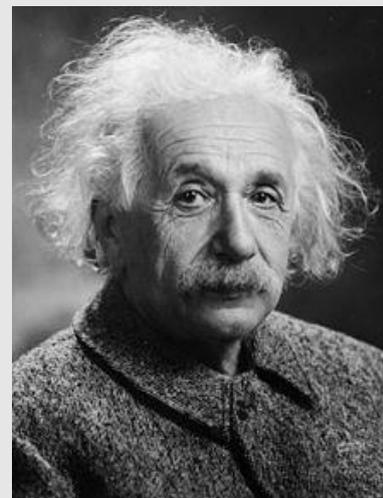
*The Editor*

## Centenary of Einstein’s Theory of General Relativity

November 2015 marks an important milestone in the history of physics: One hundred years ago, in November 1915, Albert Einstein presented his theory of general relativity, to the Prussian Academy of Sciences. Today the theory of general relativity explains all gravitational phenomena we know, from falling apples and orbiting planets to black holes and escaping galaxies.

To celebrate this anniversary – during what has been dubbed the [International Year of Light](#) – the UK Science and Technology Facilities Council put together a short animated video that explains the theory of general relativity and its impact during the last century. The video is narrated by actor David Tennant, who appropriately played the reality- and time-jumping title role in Doctor Who. Check out the video here:

[Einstein 100 – Theory of General Relativity](#)



Einstein spent ten years (from 1905 to 1915) completely dedicated to obtain a more “general” application of what he developed with the special theory of relativity. In 1907 he had what he defined as “the happiest thought of his life”, a milestone that paved the way for the development of his theory. He imagined a man falling from the roof of a house and he thought that man would not feel his own weight; he would feel weightless. He realized that there is a link between gravity and motion and after working out this idea for the next eight years, Einstein concluded that space is like a stretchy sheet of fabric that warps when objects are on it. Bigger objects like the Sun warp space more than objects like the Earth. This is also true for time: clocks run slower in a strong gravitational field than they do in empty space.

While for physicists and astronomers the general theory of relativity explains the history and expansion of the universe, the physics of black holes and the bending of light from distant stars and galaxies, on an everyday level it forms the basis for time synchronization of the global positioning system (GPS) satellites around the earth. Time actually runs slightly differently on satellites in space than on the ground and GPS devices need to make adjustments to compensate for this.

On a wider front, apart from turning the science of physics on its head, Einstein’s theories of relativity made the rest of society re-interpret how we view the world around us. Philosophers such as Aristotle, Kant, and Mill argued that there was an absolute truth and an absolute way of approaching various aspects of life. Armed with relativity, new schools of thought such as postmodernism and philosophic relativism developed around the ideas that facts are no longer absolute, but instead dependent upon one’s viewpoint. Today we find the influence of these ideas throughout society in the worlds of science, politics and activism.

## EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER SERVICE NEW RECRUITS

New recruits from the Emergency Volunteer Service underwent training at Newlands Forest Wildfire Centre on Saturday 28 November. They all came from Ocean View and the average age of the group is 17. They showed great spirit and they have all passed their theory – future firefighters in the making.



From Colin Burke

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## Previous Meeting

**Minutes of the meeting on 23 November 2015**

**Scribe: Rochelle Malherbe**

Business meeting and AGM

Sergeant: Mike Walwyn

Welcome by President Collin Burke: Guest: Pam Moore, special guest of Jenny Ibbotson, and Rotarian Jamie from Hermanus.

Object of Rotary read by Pippa McLeod.

Grace and Toast : Glynis Menné

Wine raffle won by Christine Calothi.

### **AGM opens.**

A count was made to ensure we have a quorum and last year's minutes was approved by Johan Beukman.

We only have one nominee for each of the 4 positions:

President elect – Chris Beech

President nominee – Graham Finlayson

Treasurer – Peter Ennis

Club secretary – Billy Meyer.

### **AGM closed.**

Business meeting to commence.

### **Spots:**

Melinda gave info on the Xmas function at SOSTANZA RESTAURANT. You can take your own alcohol. Dress code smart casual. Please contact Jenna if you have any additional guests coming to the function.

Terry Lancaster: Cycle tour Stellenbosch – he confirmed mails will go out during the week with more details re Sunday's race. He explained the reason for this year's earlier start for us. We are assisting Coke to run the refreshment stations and they need help to set up which they did not the previous years. Marshals will be paid extra for this extra time. Therefore if you are asked to work on refreshment station you need to please be there early to help set up. Terry will double check if the start of 5:30 is absolutely necessary. He asked for assistance with Sweep and asked those who would be available to contact Brian or himself

### **Directors' Reports:**

#### Brian Pickup: Community Services

Talking about Books of the World. We have been engaged in this project for around 7 years. Currently we are in the process of getting Pinelands Rotary involved. It has not been finalised yet, but it will happen. LEAP is moving into St Augustine's school and so will our venue.

We allocated R300 000 to community services a large slice has been given to ECD – the idea is to work with other clubs in the district and pool our resources. Mike Young has volunteered to champion that – he will report back and is working in conjunction with district on that. By end of December this year we would have spent R120 000 of the R300 000.

President's Challenge has been slow; only about 5 have been done, so they are still available.

We have also been involved in other projects like Stop Hunger Now, Dragon Boat racing and Buckets of Love; R10 000 was allocated to that.

### Jenny Ibbotson: International & Vocational

They have had around 30 applications in this half year, 13 from South African Education and Environment (SAEP) project looking after kids in school and tertiary education. It's a great organisation to support – students we help will be mentored and supported. Also 7 or 8 students from Prison Care and Support Network (PCSN). They work with prisoners and parolees who are trying to 'escape' from the place they are in. They help give people the opportunity to create a life after prison.

Two post-grad applications were turned down as our focus is on basic skills qualifications and B degrees. We are still waiting on year end results so will have to make assessments as we receive them. However the upheavals at the universities have resulted in uncertain conditions. If they all make it we will be R12 500 over budget. This means we might have to find additional ways to raise funds for this as a committee.

The Awards meeting has moved to first Monday of April.

There are people lined up for 'My Job' talk, just waiting on the president to give the go ahead.

Regarding International there has not been much activity this half of year. Menno will be exploring partnerships with clubs in other countries to help with funding projects

Comment by Ian Pursch – At District they have been talking about it and a new international coordination role been delegated to Ian. This will help create sensible connecting links between countries. We already have about 20 countries that we have regular contact with and we will build on this. Ian is going to San Diego in January the international incoming president John F Jones is making time for all incoming DG's to talk to each other. There is a District Foundation meeting on Saturday.

### Regine le Roux: PR

She is still requesting content writers to contribute. Also members to send photos with small captions or a short paragraph.

Please send all info or questions to Regine.

### Chris Beech: Membership

We have 52 members and 11 people in pipeline as prospective members. There is a request sent out this afternoon from Jamie who wants to transfer to our club from the Hermanus Club. Postponed membership meeting will be on Feb 29th. Please start thinking we will need new members and everyone will need to bring someone to the meeting as a possible new member.

Menno told the club Hendry and Carolyn from East London will be coming to our Christmas party as well as John and Angy Joubert from PenBev and are also looking to joining our club next year. Please make them feel welcome.

### **President's Slot**

We have been approached by Tony Davidson about the Rotary Family Day – last year was a big success and we have been asked to join on the 3rd April 2016. It's a great opportunity to wave the Newlands Club flag. There was a show of hand and all were in favour of this.

Emergency vehicle – there has been a small hold up, we have been donated a large piece of equipment from US that we are waiting for. As soon as it arrives it will be built and sent down. Hopefully it will be here by the second week in December. Colin will let everyone know what day the handover will be. It will defiantly be a Wednesday as there will be a live feed with the club from Australia.

Richard Burnett thanked and congratulated Colin for a great project.

End of meeting.

## Stirrer's Spoon

Peter Ennis

[Newlands Rotary Club Runner Calendar](#)

### FUTURE FIXTURES

#### Year Planner

Please advise the secretary promptly of any additions or changes

#### November 2015

Mon 30 Ordinary

#### December 2015

**Mon 7 Partners, Year-end function**

Mon 14 Ordinary

Mon 21 No meeting

Mon 28 No meeting

#### January 2016

Mon 4 No meeting

**Mon 11 Partners, 1st meeting 2016**

Mon 18 Ordinary

Mon 25 Business

## Happy Anniversary

30 November  
Richard & Sharon House

30 November  
Brian & Jane Pickup

6 December  
Shân & John Biesman-Simons

## Happy Birthday

5 December  
Martyn Webb

5 December  
Paula Pursch

## UMPIRES AND SCORERS

DATE	30 November	7 December	14 December	21 December
MEETING	Ordinary	Partners	Ordinary	No Meeting
SERGEANT	Peter Henshilwood	<b>Year-end Function</b>  <b>Sostanza Restaurant</b>	Lew Botha	
4 WAY TEST/ OBJECT	Jenna Monk		Richard House	
GRACE & TOAST	Vanessa Rousseau		Tinus de Jongh	
ATTENDANCE	Bill Meyer		Wybe Meinesz	
FELLOWSHIP	Michael Walwyn		Willie Wijenberg	
MINUTES	Pieter van Aswegen		Jana Forrester	
COMMENT	Ian Pursch		Richard Burnett	
THANK SPEAKER	Nora See		Brian Pickup	
INTRO SPEAKER	Corinne Hudson		Menno de Wet	

### Invited GUEST SPEAKERS

30 Nov **Paul Spiller** – *TB Prevention*

14 Dec **Hilary Lane** – *Triumphing in a 'normal' world*

If you cannot do your job on the day, please find someone who can do it instead of you, then contact the Sergeant on the day to update the roster. Please don't leave this until the Monday afternoon – let the Sergeant know in advance if you have not been able to arrange a swap. If you are going to be away for particular future meetings let Peter Ennis know.



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## **Rotary Club of Newlands Office Bearers**

Colin Burke	President	colinburke@mweb.co.za
Lucian Pitt	Secretary	secretary@newlands.org.za
Peter Ennis	Treasurer	treasurer@newlands.org.za
Chris Beech	President Elect	chris@aaam.co.za
Brian Pickup	Community Service	brianp@automac.co.za
Melinda Stapleton	Club Service	mjstapleton@webafrica.org.za
Jenny Ibbotson	International & Vocational Service	jennyi@mweb.co.za
Chris Beech	Membership	chris@aaam.co.za
Wybe Meinesz	Past President	wybe@insectcontrol.co.za
Regine le Roux	Public Relations	rotary@reputationmatters.co.za
Johan Beukman	Youth Service	jbeukman@netactive.co.za

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## **Books for the World**

**For all educational school books and novels for  
age from early education to High school**

**CONTACT: FRANCOISE NDAYIZIGIYE 0737317056**

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